

A freshly paved trail and parking lot welcome visitors to Highland's Heron Rookery. The trails and rookery are open year-round to all schools, Girl and Boy Scout troops, bird watchers and nature lovers. Benches and fixed binoculars are available for your viewing pleasure. [Josh Carlascio photos]

## PAVED TRAIL, PARKING AREA PROVIDE EASY ACCESSIBILITY TO HERON ROOKERY

Highland's Heron Rookery is awash in activity of the avian variety.

While great blue heron chicks hone their flying and hunting skills, egret nestlings that appear in the marsh are even more snowy white than their majestic parents. Owls, a host of native and migratory birds, even the occasional eagle are spotted by those patient enough to watch the comings and goings of life on the marsh.

More than two years after Highland Main Street began looking to increase accessibility to the rookery trail, which sits atop a berm on the south side of the Little Calumet River, a paved access trail and parking area are now complete.

"The rookery is a treasure everyone, regardless of mobility, may now be able to experience," Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro said. "The paving by the Little Calumet River Basin Commission made it all possible."



## **RIBBON-CUTTING ...**

Bring a pair of binoculars and head east along the Little Calumet River Levee or the Erie Lakawanna Trail until you reach Liable Road to enjoy spectacular views of beautiful birds, ducks, geese and water-loving mammals.

Highland Main Street and town leaders will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 6 p.m. **SEPTEMBER 28** to officially unveil the new features.

INFO: highland.in.gov/rookery